



Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at <http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content>.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact support@jstor.org.

of the direst necessity), on the ground that all actions of war can be justified by necessity alone, and hence differ only in the degree of that necessity. The breaking of any rule of war on the plea of extreme necessity, "even when justified, has a dangerous tendency to corrupt and degrade those who urge it," so that it is better to have no rule at all than one which may be allowed to lapse under such a plea.

A continuation of the work is promised, presenting a full discussion of the latest developments in the doctrine of neutrality. It is to be hoped that it will be as stimulating and suggestive as is this first part.

J. S. REEVES.

Baltimore.

ELEMENTARY TEXTBOOKS ON COMMERCIAL GEOGRAPHY.

In the recent work by Professor Gonner, we have an elementary textbook of Commercial Geography,* written by a well-known economist. Inasmuch as commercial geography is a branch of the general subject of economics, its successful treatment requires an author versed in theoretical and practical political economy. Thus far, works on commercial geography have been too largely compendiums of information; there has been little attempt to treat the subject as a science, whose formulation should consist primarily of the elaboration of those principles of economics which refer to commerce and secondarily of the illustration and establishment of those principles by the statement of the more important concrete facts regarding the production and interchange of commodities.

Professor Gonner has not made a science of commercial geography, but he has produced a hand-book in which the order of treatment is systematic, and the material is well chosen. His method of treatment consists first, in analyzing briefly the physical and political influences which affect the economic life of a country; secondly, in enumerating the conditions upon which successful agriculture, manufactures and commerce depend; thirdly, in discussing the geography of products, to which he devotes nearly half his book, and fourthly, in taking up the commercial geography of each important country. In discussing the united kingdom, he treats of (1) the general physical and political facts influencing the economic development of Great Britain, (2) the way in which these influence agriculture, manufactures and commerce, and (3) then he gives a few statistical and other data concerning the commerce and manufactures. The plan of treating other countries

* *Commercial Geography*. By E. C. K. GONNER, M. A. Pp. xi, 205. Price, 75 cents. London and New York: Macmillan & Co., 1894.

is in general the same, though not carried out in such detail as in the case of the United Kingdom.

The book is very condensed, several of the chapters being little more than syllabi of the subjects they treat. If one were to choose between a large textbook of the nature of a compendium of information and a brief outline work, such as Professor Gonner's, I think the wiser choice would be to take the latter and supplement it by assigned readings in such standard works as Yeats' "Recent and Existing Commerce," "Natural History of Commerce," and "Growth and Vicissitudes of Commerce."

The "Elementary Commercial Geography," by Hugh Robert Mill, a second edition of which has appeared,* is a brief book of the compendium type in which the material is well selected. In the brief introductory chapter the author speaks of physiography and economics as preliminary studies necessary to an understanding of commercial geography. In view of the fact that commercial geography is now taught, and will continue to be given, to students who have little or no knowledge of economics it seems advisable to construct our textbooks so as to meet this fact. It is quite probable that the courses in physical geography can be broadened out to include a large part of physiography and thus supply students with that much of the preliminary knowledge requisite to the study of commercial geography; but there is no prospect of economics being studied as a preliminary. The author's atlas of commercial geography, which he published in 1889, is to be used with the textbook. The atlas is a good piece of geographical work and enhances the value of the text.

Such being the practical situation, the little book by H. DeB. Gibbins on the "Economics of Commerce"† is very timely. A better title for the book would have been the economics of trade; for the work deals not only with such strictly commercial themes as commerce and its laws, import and export statistics, foreign exchanges, bimetallism, free trade and protection, but also with such questions as money and credit, credit and banking, trusts, labor and capital, trades unions and the distribution of wealth. The topics are discussed briefly and in an elementary way; but what is given is clearly and, in the main, accurately stated. Though most definitions are carefully framed, certain inaccuracies appear as in the case of the statements regarding capital on pages 66 and 67; on page 75, however, capital is rightly defined as "wealth set apart for the production of more wealth." It seems to me that the

* *Elementary Commercial Geography*. By HUGH ROBERT MILL, D. Sc. Second edition, revised and enlarged. Pitt Press Series. Pp. 195. Price, 1s. University Press, Cambridge, 1894.

† *The Economics of Commerce*. By H. DEB. GIBBINS, M. A. Pp. 94. Price, 1s. 6d. London: Methuen & Co., 1894.

author's conception of wages is open to criticism and that his discussion of the distribution of wealth is little more than a confession that he has no theory to explain the subject ; but here we are in the region of economic controversies, and differences of opinion are to be expected.

Could one fuse together the material of two such books as Gonner's "Commercial Geography" and Gibbins' "Economics of Commerce" and then cast the fusion in the properly fashioned mould, one would have something approaching a good elementary textbook in commercial geography. Such a text, supplemented by lectures and reading, would answer present needs.

The use of a brief text like this would be would make such a book as Lionel W. Lyde's "Commercial Geography of the British Empire" of service.* The work consists principally of a discussion of the physical conditions affecting production and interchange of goods and an application of that discussion in the subsequent study of the economic activity of the several parts of the British Empire. The book is suggestive and will make good supplementary reading in a general course on commercial geography.

EMORY R. JOHNSON.

NOTES.

THE ENLARGED EDITION of "An Honest Dollar," by President Andrews,† contains two essays which have not been published in other form, one in reply to Giffen's "The Case Against Bimetallism," and one on "The Monetary Experiment in India." In his reply to Giffen President Andrews contends that the alleged premium on gold in France after 1883 was not a premium in the sense attached to the word by Mr. Giffen and does not prove that silver had lost its legal parity with gold, the main explanation of the so-called premium being found in the fact that the French mintage charge on silver was heavier than on gold. His whole argument on this point is one that the monometallist cannot afford to ignore.

CANON BARNETT AND his wife represent the papers which compose the volume on "Practicable Socialism"‡ to be the miscellaneous writing

* *A Commercial Geography of the British Empire.* By LIONEL W. LYDE, M. A. Pp. 156. Price, 2s. London: Methuen & Co., 1894.

† *An Honest Dollar.* By E. BENJ. ANDREWS. Pp. 183. Price, \$1.00. Hartford: Student Publishing Company, 1894.

‡ *Practicable Socialism: Essays on Social Reform.* By SAMUEL and HENRIETTA BARNETT. Pp. 328. Price \$1.50. London and New York: Longmans, Green & Co., 1894.